INDIAN AFFAIRS

There are only a few references to Indians or to Indian warfare in this record. One of these appears to be an instance of disgraceful treatment of a friendly Indian. A Nangemy Indian, Misapacka, complained of maltreatment by a planter at the September, 1666, Charles County Court, and "John Tomkinson in the absence of Mr Thomas Mathews [the then sheriff], was sworne to make a trew interpretation of Misapacka a nangemy Indians Complaint." Misapacka declared that he had bought corn at Pamunkev and had hired an Indian as guide, and had given him ten arms length of Roanoke to bring corn and beans in a canoe to his house in Nangemy. The Indian was hailed when he was passing Mr. Pinnar's house "and thereupon According to the Articles hee Came ashoare and they thearupon immediately seased him and bound him and Carried him unto Mr Waed (Wade) hows but when hee Returned thear was missing about one hogset of Corne a bushell of Beanes one boule and too mats." Richard Pinnar came to the next court to answer the complaint, but the court clerk made no entry as to the outcome (p. 34). Again at the November, 1674, court, Cornelius Cormacke was ordered to appear at the next court to answer the complaint of the Indians, but our record ends with this session so we do not know the nature of the complaint or the action upon it, if any (p. 615).

The court at the January, 1666/7, session, ordered that Ralph Wormelie (Wormeley) and Garret Synnet (Sennet) who had "receaved hurt, and damage in the March to Pascataway in this present yeare 1666 by Casuall Shott". draw a bill of their charges for injuries to be sent to the Provincial Court to be entered on the "publique levie" (Provincial levy) (p. 55; Arch. Md. LVII, xlv). Zachary Wade, one of the justices, recorded at the March, 1665/6, court, that he had deposited with George Thompson, clerk of the court, 990 pounds "of the Countrys tobacco" for powder and shot, doubtless in connection with the march to Piscataway (p. 11). It was possibly to this same Indian disturbance that Mary Wheeler referred, when as a witness at the March, 1669/70, court, she dated a past occurrence as having taken place in "the yeare my husband went the march" (p. 254). This was unquestionably the march to Piscataway against the Indians. In various land conveyances we find mentioned as landmarks "Indian fields" or "old Indian fields", and in one instance an "old Indian fort." Indian fields are noted as being located on Mattawoman or St. Thomas' Creek (pp. 155, 156, 225), and as on Chingamuxon Creek in Piscataway River (p. 599). "Old Indian fields" are noted on Wicomico River and Portobacco Creek (pp. 268, 523, 552)). The location of Benjamin Rozer's Indian Fields plantation has not been identified (p. 585). The "olde Indian forte" (p. 533), known as the Anacostin Fort, is described as located on St. Isidore's Creek, later called Anacostia River where the village of Twining in the District of Columbia now stands (Md. Hist. Mag. 1938, pp. 134-148). "Paths", which may be Indian trails, are discussed in another section (p. xlviii).

In the county levy for 1666, there is a curious mention of "Indian heads", the meaning of which is ambiguous. The entry in question shows 277 pounds of tobacco due "To Nich. Emerson p accot of Charges for Indian heads & the